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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/EP2003/013718



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2002P01303WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/EP2003/013718	International filing date (day/month/year) 04 December 2003 (04.12.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 19 December 2002 (19.12.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A47L 15/42		
Applicant BSH BOSCH UND SIEMENS HAUSGERÄTE GMBH		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 14 July 2004 (14.07.2004)	Date of completion of this report 06 April 2005 (06.04.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP2003/013718

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- the international application as originally filed
 the description:

pages _____ 1-9 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

- the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____ 1-21 _____, filed with the letter of 17 March 2005 (17.03.2005)

- the drawings:

pages _____ 1/6-6/6 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

- the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 03/13718

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-21	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-21	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-21	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

1. This report makes reference to the following documents, which are cited in the international search report:

D1: DE 100 22 206 A (MIELE & CIE) 21 February 2002
(2002-02-21)

D2: GB-A-2 044 427 (LICENTIA GMBH) 15 October 1980
(1980-10-15)

2. The subject matter of claims 1-21 is considered to be novel, inventive and industrially applicable.
- 2.1 D1 is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1. D1 discloses (the references in parentheses are to D1):
a built-in domestic appliance (1) having at least one optical operating status indicator (4) that can be covered by at least one cover element, wherein at least one light guide is coupled to the optical operating status indicator for transmitting at least one emitted light signal, said light guide (13) being designed in such a way that its light conduction path (12) can be adapted to the thickness of the cover element.

Similar teachings can be found in D2 (see figure 1)

and corresponding passages).

Thus the subject matter of claim 1 differs from the teaching of D1 in that the light guide is composed of at least two parts in such a way that, in order to adjust the light conduction path, the second part of the light guide can be displaced relative to the first part of the light guide.

This feature has the advantage that the length of the light conduction path can be adapted especially easily to the thickness of the respective cover element (for example, a door of the domestic appliance).

None of the cited documents discloses a light guide designed in this way.

Furthermore, such a design of the light guide is not obvious from any of the cited documents.

The subject matter of the present claim 1 is therefore considered to be novel and inventive (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).

- 2.2 Claims 2-21 are drafted as either directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1. The subject matter thereof is therefore also considered to be novel and inventive.
- 2.3 The invention is clearly industrially applicable in the field of built-in domestic appliances.